Waterways of Russia
St. Petersburg • Moscow

Cruising aboard the Deluxe Volga Dream
August 26 to September 6, 2018
Dear Fellow Columbian,

Travel in the company of alumni and friends from August 26 – September 6, 2018, and experience the timeless pageantry and traditional folkways of Russia along the scenic rivers, lakes, and canals that link St. Petersburg with Moscow. Between these two grand cultural capitals lies a countryside seemingly untouched by the modern age. Golden-domed churches rise up from the early morning mist, quaint wooden villages and old-world farms dot the verdant landscape, and the gentle light of lingering summer evenings gives an otherworldly aura to the banks of Russia’s great inland waterways.

Explore the preeminent artistic, historical and architectural treasures of classical Russian culture and several “Golden Ring” cities. Visit splendid St. Petersburg—Russia’s “window on the West” and its cultural capital—the majestic legacy of the most visionary of tsars, Peter the Great. Then, cruise through the heart of Russia, where daily life unfolds at the measured pace it has kept for generations and where villagers still dwell in traditional wooden cottages and preserve the time-honored customs of their ancestors, while spectacular onion-domed churches and fortified monasteries testify to the abiding faith of the Russian people. Conclude with one night in the fabled city of Moscow, the political and commercial capital of the world’s largest country.

Cruise aboard the specially chartered, deluxe small ship Volga Dream. Accommodating only 90 guests in deluxe, river-view suites and staterooms, the Volga Dream and its highly trained, English-speaking staff ensure you will enjoy an intimate atmosphere, personalized service and highly praised continental cuisine throughout your cruise.

The Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) is a global network connecting Columbians of all schools to one another and to the intellectual and social fabric of Columbia University, even after graduation. It links over 330,000 alumni through more than 100 Regional Clubs and Shared Interest Groups, online resources, and over 200 thought-provoking programs around the world. The CAA Travel Study Program is one of the benefits offered to Columbia alumni and is an opportunity to continue one’s Columbia education through new intellectual, cultural, and geographical horizons.

Shared with participants from cosponsoring associations, this unique travel program features a thoughtfully crafted, comprehensive itinerary with opportunities to experience nine UNESCO World Heritage sites. Please contact the Alumni Travel Study Program office to reserve your space today while early booking savings and choice accommodations are available!

Sincerely,

Donna H. MacPhee ’89CC, P,’17CC
Vice President for Alumni Relations
President, Columbia Alumni Association
U.S.
Sunday, August 26
Depart the U.S.

St. Petersburg, Russia
Monday, August 27
Arrive in regal St. Petersburg, Peter the Great’s elegant urban achievement and Russia’s cultural capital, and transfer to the centrally located, Five-Star Kempinski Hotel Moika 22. This evening, attend the Welcome Reception in the hotel.

St. Petersburg
Tuesday, August 28
Explore the city’s historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage site where legendary landmarks are scattered across more than 100 islands and linked by three times as many bridges. St. Petersburg’s main thoroughfare, Nevsky Prospekt, showcases exquisite examples of Russian Baroque and neoclassical architecture. See the ornate Church of Our Savior on Spilled Blood (Church of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ), built on the site of Emperor Alexander II’s assassination; see the iconic golden spire of the Admiralty; and visit 19th-century St. Isaac’s Cathedral to admire its dazzling interior of malachite and lapis lazuli. The church’s golden dome is one of the glories of the city’s skyline. Tour St. Petersburg’s oldest edifice, the Peter and Paul Fortress, built in 1703 to guard the country’s only outlet to the Baltic Sea.

This afternoon, visit the new halls of the State Hermitage Museum’s General Staff Building to view the priceless collection of 19th- and 20th-century French Impressionist and Post-Impressionist works, including 74 masterpieces “lost” in a storeroom during World War II. This evening, you may choose to attend an optional Russian folklore performance in Nicholas Palace (schedule to be determined).

St. Petersburg
Wednesday, August 29
This morning, by specially reserved early entrance, return to the UNESCO World Heritage-designated State Hermitage Museum, the former tsarist palace of Catherine the Great to further tour this repository of one of the world’s oldest and most important art collections, rivaled only by the museum’s lavish interior.

Later, visit the imperial compound of Pushkin and Rococo Catherine Palace, an elaborate UNESCO World Heritage site. See the extraordinary Amber Room, laden with six tons of solid amber, deftly carved and framed in gold leaf and said to be the “Eighth Wonder of the World.” Stripped and confiscated by the Nazis in 1941, it was meticulously reconstructed over 25 years to honor of the 300th anniversary of the city of St. Petersburg. This evening, you may choose to attend an optional Russian folklore performance in Nicholas Palace (schedule to be determined).

St. Petersburg
Thursday, August 30
This morning, visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of Peterhof Palace and Gardens, also known

Cover photo: Stroll along the majestic Grand Cascade at Petrodvorets, a UNESCO World Heritage site often referred to as the “Russian Versailles.”

Photo this page: One of the most recognized symbols of Moscow, the colorful domes of St. Basil’s Cathedral scintillate over iconic Red Square.
as Petrodvorets, the grand summer palace and splendid parklands commissioned by Peter the Great to rival Versailles.

Embark the deluxe, small ship VOLGA DREAM this afternoon and attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception as the ship departs St. Petersburg.

Neva River/Lake Ladoga/Svir River/Svirstroy
Friday, August 31
Admire the passing wilderness of serene meadows, virgin pine and birch forests lining the banks of the mighty Neva River and the shores of Lake Ladoga, the largest lake in Europe. This afternoon, the ship calls at Svirstroy, a charming riverside village evoking the peaceful, traditional ways of rural life. See the historic Lodeynoe Pole, where Peter the Great established the Olonets Shipyard, birthplace of the Baltic Fleet.

Visit the home of a local villager and enjoy tea and Russian cakes before continuing along the sparkling Svir River between Lake Ladoga and Lake Onega.

Lake Onega/Kizhi Island
Saturday, September 1
Early this morning, be on deck for the unforgettable approach to picturesque Kizhi Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Tour this remarkable open-air museum, a treasure trove of 18th-century Karelian and north Russian wooden architecture. Admire the Church of the Transfiguration, an architectural masterpiece featuring 22 cupolas built completely of wood without a single nail.

Enjoy an afternoon cruise on scenic Lake Onega, dotted with over 1600 small islands, in view of the beautifully untouched, pastoral Karelian countryside, home to both ethnic Finns and Russians.

Lake Beloye/Goritsy/Sheksna River
Sunday, September 2
Along the shores of Lake Beloye, admire rural communities continuing the long-standing traditions of Old Russia. From the tranquil village of Goritsy, visit the Kirillo-Belozersky Monastery, founded in 1397, and see its collection of paintings, early printed books and pictorial embroidery. It is said that Vasily III came here to pray for an heir, and soon after, his wife Elena gave birth to the future Ivan the Terrible, the first tsar of Russia.

Further along the Sheksna River, catch glimpses of a bygone era as you pass by rustic family farms and quaint dachas, traditional Russian wooden cottages.

The beautiful 16th-century Goritsy Monastery was founded by a daughter-in-law of Ivan the Terrible.
This evening, enjoy a dinner of Russian delicacies followed by a specially arranged sampling of Russian vodkas.

**Lake Rybinskoye/ Volga River/Yaroslavl**  
**Monday, September 3**

Cruise Lake Rybinskoye, surrounded by scenic wilderness. Dock in Yaroslavl, the oldest city on the Volga River and one of the “Golden Ring” of fortified 11th- to 15th-century cities and villages built to encircle Moscow. This UNESCO World Heritage site, known as the “Florence of Russia,” is renowned for its 17th-century stone churches crowned with painted onion domes and soaring turrets. Stroll along the river to the Church of Elijah the Prophet, an exquisite architectural masterpiece located in the heart of the Old Town and filled with well-preserved frescoes. See the magnificent Monastery of the Transfiguration, founded in the 12th century.

**Uglich/Volga River**  
**Tuesday, September 4**

Arrive in the “Golden Ring” city of Uglich and walk to the 17th-century Church of Prince Dimitri-on-the-Blood, built on the site where Ivan the Terrible’s young son met his tragic demise. Admire its cluster of red turrets capped with shimmering blue onion domes and the elegant frescoes that adorn the interior. Continue on to see the stately five-domed Cathedral of the Transfiguration, built along the Volga River in 1713.

This afternoon, cruise the great Volga River, the main artery of the Russian heartland for over a millennium, and into the Moscow Canal, which provides Moscow access to the White, Baltic, Caspian, Azov and Black Seas. Attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception on board the ship this evening.

**Moscow**  
**Wednesday, September 5**

Arrive in Russia’s illustrious capital city, which has embodied the heart and soul of the country for over 850 years. Disembark the ship and enjoy a panoramic tour of Moscow featuring the Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer, the monument of Peter the Great, the renowned Bolshoi Theatre and expansive views of the city from University Square. Explore Moscow’s cultural and historical treasures beginning with a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Kremlin, the imposing “Citadel of the Tsars.” See magisterial Red Square, a UNESCO World Heritage site where both Romanov tsars and Soviet commissars have flexed their power, and admire the multicolored grandeur of the 16th-century St. Basil’s Cathedral, one of the country’s most striking Orthodox monuments. Check into the Five-Star Marriott Royal Aurora Hotel and enjoy dinner in the hotel this evening.

**Moscow/U.S.**  
**Thursday, September 6**

Continue on the Iconic Moscow Post-Program Option, or transfer to the airport for your flight to the U.S.

Post-Program Options and Optional Excursions are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Further explore the jewels of Russia’s capital and delve deep into its Cold War and pre-revolutionary past. Ride the Moscow Metro, where train stations are museums in their own right. Tour the fascinating Cold War Museum at the Bunker-42 on Taganka, a former secret military complex. Visit the acclaimed State Tretyakov Gallery; the Armoury Museum—the oldest museum in Russia—to see the world’s largest collection of Imperial Fabergé eggs; and the Tolstoy House Museum, where author Leo Tolstoy lived in 1882. Spend two nights in the Five-Star Marriott Royal Aurora Hotel.

Moscow’s Metro is far from utilitarian; the stations’ palatial decor recalls Russia’s elite past.
Included Features

In St. Petersburg and Moscow
◆ Three nights in the centrally located, Five-Star KEMPINSKI HOTEL MOIKA 22 in St. Petersburg.
◆ One night in the Five-Star MARRIOTT ROYAL AURORA HOTEL in Moscow.
◆ Breakfast each morning in the hotels.
◆ Two lunches in St. Petersburg.
◆ One dinner in the hotel in Moscow.
◆ Tours of St. Petersburg’s 18th-century Peter and Paul Fortress and neoclassical St. Isaac’s Cathedral.

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe VOLGA DREAM
◆ Six-night cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow on Russia’s legendary waterways—the Neva River, Lake Ladoga, the Svir River, Lake Onega, Lake Beloye, the Sheksna River, Lake Rybinskoje and the Volga River.
◆ Deluxe, river-view Suite or Stateroom.
◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ All meals aboard ship.
◆ Complimentary house wine and soft drinks included with lunch and dinner; coffee and tea available 24 hours.
◆ Specially arranged Russian vodka tasting.
◆ Exclusive traditional Russian tea ceremony.
◆ Visit to the 14th-century Kirillo-Belozersky Monastery near Goritsy.
◆ Walking tour of historic Uglich, with a visit to the Church of Prince Dimitri-on-the-Blood.

UNESCO World Heritage Highlights
◆ Exclusive early entrance and guided tour of the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg.
◆ Visits to the elaborate Peterhof Palace and Gardens and Catherine Palace in Pushkin.
◆ Walking tour of fascinating Kizhi Island.
◆ City tour of medieval Yaroslavl.
◆ Visit to Moscow’s imposing Kremlin.
◆ Tour of Moscow’s city center to see Red Square and brightly hued St. Basil’s Cathedral.

Always Included
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions.
◆ Two optional cultural performances, available at additional cost.
◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom aboard ship and on excursions.
◆ Hospitality desk aboard ship and in the hotels.
◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Russia’s Cultural Capitals

Among the world’s prodigious capitals of culture, the two extraordinary Russian cities of St. Petersburg and Moscow are held in the highest regard.

The very creation of St. Petersburg was a cultural statement by Peter the Great, whose vision was to “open a window on the West” to rival Europe’s greatest cities. This epicenter of art and architecture is highlighted during a specially reserved early entrance and tour of the UNESCO World Heritage-designated State Hermitage Museum, allowing you to view the incomparable treasures of Catherine the Great’s spectacular art collections. True to Peter the Great’s vision, St. Petersburg, the artistic, literary and musical center of Russia, has engendered universally revered ballets, novels and classical compositions.

An important center of trade long before Ivan the Terrible declared it Russia’s capital in 1547, Moscow is a medieval city in its layout and original architecture. Today, this sophisticated city is a showcase of four UNESCO World Heritage sites and continues to be the heart of Russian finance, commerce, education and research. Here, you will visit the renowned Kremlin Territory and magisterial Red Square to see 16th-century St. Basil’s Cathedral, experiencing firsthand one of the most dynamic cities in the world.

Marvel at the grandiose design, gilding and decor inside St. Petersburg’s renowned State Hermitage Museum.
**MS Volga Dream**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stateroom Category</th>
<th>LAND/Cruise Tariff* Excluding Taxes*</th>
<th>Early Booking Tariff* through Feb. 5, 2018</th>
<th>Tariff* after Feb. 5, 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Stateroom with two twin beds and one or two portholes. Cabin Deck.</td>
<td>$5995</td>
<td>$6995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Stateroom with two twin beds and two windows. Main Deck, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$6995</td>
<td>$7995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Stateroom with two twin beds and two windows. Main Deck, midship.</td>
<td>$7695</td>
<td>$8695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, aft.</td>
<td>$8295</td>
<td>$9295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, midship and forward.</td>
<td>$8495</td>
<td>$9495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, midship.</td>
<td>$8695</td>
<td>$9695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Stateroom with two twin beds and one or two windows. Sun Deck.</td>
<td>$8995</td>
<td>$9995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Suite</td>
<td>Suite with one queen bed, two windows, chair and desk. Sun Deck and Promenade Deck, midship.</td>
<td>$9495</td>
<td>$10495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner's Suite</td>
<td>Large Suite with one queen bed, eight windows and sitting area with sofa, chair and desk. Promenade Deck, forward. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$10495</td>
<td>$11495</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Singles are available in category 5 at $12395* and in category 4 at $13395* on or before February 5, 2018. Add $1000 for reservations made after February 5, 2018.

*Taxes are an additional $150 per person and are subject to change.

**Volga Dream** has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

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**Waterways of Russia Reservation Form**

**Send to:** Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program P.O. Box 930 Riverside, CT 06878 or fax: (203) 724-0844

**For more information:** Phone: (866) 325-8664 (toll free) email: travelsstudy@columbia.edu www.Alumni.Columbia.edu/Travel

**Title** | **Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)** | **School/Degree/Year**
---|---|---

**Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)**

**City** | **State** | **Zip Code**
---|---|---

**Telephone:** (Home) | (Mobile) | (Business)
---|---|---

**Email Address** | **Columbia UNI**
---|---

**Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s)** | **Tour No. 033-08/26/18-021**
---|---

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Iconic Moscow Post-Program Option.

- Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.
- Make checks payable to 2018 Waterways of Russia.
- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:
  - Visa
  - MasterCard

**Card Number** | **Exp. Date**
---|---

**Signature as it appears on credit card**

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by May 23, 2018.

By forwarding the deposit for this travel program, I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and accept the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement in this brochure.

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**WATERWAYS OF RUSSIA RESERVATION FORM**

Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:

1st choice: ______ 2nd choice: ______

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):

- Iconic Moscow Post-Program Option
  - Double at $895 per person.
  - Single at $1195 per person.
  - I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

- I/We want you to book my/our air, at additional cost to be advised,<sup>‡</sup> from:
  - Economy Class
  - Upgraded Economy
  - Business Class
  - First Class

- Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

- I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

<sup>‡</sup>Volga Dream has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

By forwarding the deposit for this travel program, I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and accept the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement in this brochure.
CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: cancellation reservation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 179 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariff; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Additional information on insurance options will be sent upon receipt of your reservation.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

REGISTRATION: CST#: 2031868-40, WST#: 601 767 666, CST#: TA 9005.

BINDING ARBITRATION: Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, either pursuant to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive and procedural law of the state in which the trip occurs. The participant and Gohagan hereby agree that any arbitration proceedings are to take place in Chicago, IL. This agreement to arbitrate shall apply to all federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a jury trial.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts and consents to any terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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COLUMBIA ALUMNI TRAVEL STUDY PROGRAM
Walk in the footsteps of the Romanov family on the grounds of Pushkin’s opulent Catherine Palace.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

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